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Cabarrus County Ministers Deplore Cross Burnings

Hedt Hopes Prosecution Will Halt KKK Resurgence

By Andrew McCorkle
Post Staff Writer
About 13 members of the Logan Ministerial Association in Concord released a prepared statement over the weekend deploring a recent series of cross burnings in Cabarrus County.

that have been atrocious," he explained. Some reports have done nothing more, said Hedt, than to give Klan officials "free air time to promote their points of view."

"They've gotten more free air time this past week than they could have afforded," he ended.

Cross burning is a terrorist tactic, designed to intimidate, usually associated with the Ku Klux Klan. However, one recent cross burning in Concord and two in Cabarrus County have not been linked with the organization.

There have been arrests in all three incidents.

Members of the association met with Alderman Robert Mathis and Police Chief Jack Moore to determine whether city officials realized the seriousness of the cross burnings, despite the apparent lack of Klan involvement, said Rev. Fred Hedt, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church.

"For many people cross burnings recall the hurt and fear of the days before we learned to live together in harmony," according to the statement. "We have worked together, black and white, side by side, in building a community in which we all can take pride. It is a very sad day when such despicable and cowardly actions occur in our fine city."

The statement is signed by about 31 members of the Logan Ministerial Association and concerned citizens.

The statement concludes: "We urge all the people of Concord to pray for our public officials as they see to deal with this problem."

Hedt, treasurer of the association, said that Chief Moore appeared to be sincerely disturbed that it happened. He understood the seriousness of the act.

Hedt emerged from the meeting feeling "much better," he said, and "nobody expressed a different point of view. I think that most of the fellows felt the same way I did."

The association is also concerned that Klan members may think that the area is fertile territory for major Klan activity, as a result of the burnings. Hedt explained the preachers hope that prosecution in the recent incidents may thwart any hopes of a Klan resurgence in the Cabarrus County area.

"It is extremely regrettable, serious and potentially explosive," stated Hedt, "and police officials did all they could to let the whole city know that this won't be tolerated."

Hedt said that the organization plans to issue a formal complaint to local television stations about recent news coverage of the Klan.

"There have been a couple of TV news reports



Douglas Spears
.....First Vice President

JCSU Alumni

Endorse Spears

For President

The Charlotte Chapter of Johnson C. Smith University Alumni Association recently endorsed Rufus Douglas Spears for National President in the 1983 election.

Spears is currently the First Vice President of the National JCSU Alumni Association. He is a native of Charlotte. Other members of the alumni endorsed by the local chapter include: Cornell Powell of New York City for First Vice President; Obie Patterson of Washington, D.C. for Second Vice President Myra Maxwell of Charlotte for Secretary and Ernest Eavans of Columbia, SC for Treasurer.

Statewide Voter

Registration

Drive Announced

Statewide voter registration drive aimed at students in the community college system is being sponsored by the statewide student government association for community colleges. The North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (NCCCSGA) represents an estimated 500,000 community college and technical institution students in more than 50 colleges across the state.

The local voter registration drive is being sponsored by the CPCC Student Association and the Support Our Community College (SOCC) group at CPCC. The SOCC organization seeks to address political and other issues not covered by another group.

Plans are being made to have election registrars on the CPCC campus mall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. on April 27.

Citizens To Protest Dumping

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
Many citizens of Warren County and surrounding areas will reassemble this weekend at the Courthouse Square to continue a protest against the dumping of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB).

Lytonia Harris who has been actively involved in the protests stated "Presently there is no dumping of the chemical." However, the citizens of this county, which is 75 percent black, don't know for sure dumping of the waste won't resume tomorrow.

In a tone of dismay, Harris implied damage is already resulting. "I and a few other people went out to the dumping site one day last week. We had on protective gear and even oxygen masks. We were at the site only 15 minutes; not long afterward we started developing welts on our faces."

Harris and many others who are constantly checking on the status of the over 100-acre dumping site don't bother to seek medical care anymore when they have such skin eruptions. They've learned that cold water flushed upon the affected area will eventually settle the condition. However, the medical dangers which bother Harris and other citizens of Warren County are skin and liver disorders—cancer and birth defects. Researchers have discovered in laboratory tests each of these can be caused by exposure to PCB.

Besides citizens of Warren County, people of East Durham, Chatham and Anson Counties are expected to be primary participants because of their close location to Warren County.

Mayor Eddie Knox Warns:

"We Need To Create Perception That 'Good Guys' Are In Control"

Special To The Post
Speaking to a group of black Charlotte business executives, Eddie Knox called for a return to traditional values and partnership between business, private citizens and government in making what he called "our own path into a better world."

Knox told the Charlotte Business League, "We need to create the perception that the 'good guys' are in control, that we can make things better—not by promising quick fixes and easy solutions, but by establishing leadership that will unite us in this task we have ahead of us. We need to re-establish the feelings we once had in this country about our own abilities, our own commitment to our communities, to the whole state. We need leadership that will listen to us, that will keep the best of the past, the values we learned at home and at church, and combine that



HARVEY GANTT
...Mayor Pro Tem

Gantt Kicks Off Mayoral Campaign In Festive Mood

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
"It's a good time to be running for mayor. There's a renewed spirit across Charlotte, and citizens are becoming more involved in local government."

This is the opinion voiced by mayor pro tem Harvey Gantt as he excitedly prepares for his official announcement as mayoral candidate. Hundreds of people are expected to crowd uptown Marshall Park this even-

ing (Thursday) for the long-awaited occasion. "It's going to be like a festival," Gantt promised.

There will be balloons and T-shirts for all as the event gets underway at 5 p.m.

However, the magic hour is 6 p.m. Gantt will take center stage, presenting to Charlotteans what his experience in local government, urban planning and architecture can do for the "betterment of Charlotte."

Citing his strongest concerns in the city, Gantt

emphasized growth management, and job development.

"I want to see continuing growth management in the city. There should be improvement in the development of inner city (uptown) and the northeast and northwest areas of Charlotte," Gantt noted.

Undoubtedly concerned about getting more people in the job force, Gantt looks forward to the opportunity to build a stronger relationship with the city, Gantt

See GANTT on Page 3



Eddie Knox
....Gubernatorial candidate

with the best of the future...the big advances in information and health services and technical capabilities."

Knox amplified a central theme of his April 6 announcement for the 1984 governor's race, citing the three major problems

facing the state as crime, the need for more and better jobs, and an educational system to meet the need of all citizens in coping with rapid societal changes.

On education, Knox singled out a key peg of his campaign platform, the recruitment of new and diversified industry to North Carolina. "I want new business and industry to see that we care enough about our own people to do whatever it takes to prepare them for the working world. That we're willing to counsel with youngsters, to guide them into the professions or into the crafts they are going to be most successful in."

"This," he said, "will mean an increased reliance on the state's community college system and a bolstering of the state's university system. Knox called for a symposium to bring educational leaders See "Good" on Page 6



LOVELY SHEILIA CALDWELL
.....Enjoys working in church

Sheila Caldwell Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
"To spread love around the world...that is what is needed. People need to be told they are loved and needed and that they can make a difference."

You may not think that a junior in high school spoke these words, but it's true. Our beauty, Sheila Caldwell, a student at Independence High School, is one who expresses herself without regard of criticism by others.

Even though Ms. Caldwell realizes that frequently "The impossible is untried," she still feels that through love, faith and the self-confidence inspired by God, success can be obtained.

An active member of the community our beauty enjoys working in church-related activities. At New St. John's Baptist Church where Rev. Robert Leak is pastor, she hopes to head the Children's Hour soon to start. She has already obtained the experience of heading the church's nursery. "Church gives me a chance to meet people and I enjoy working in the church. It helps me in life."

At Independence she is a member of the Annual Staff and a Letter Girl. She

has also participated in several oratorical contests, the most recent being held at Greenville Center where she was a runner-up.

Her hobbies include reading poetry and skating. "I am a quiet person and people consider me friendly. I try to get along with everyone."

Miss Caldwell also enjoys the music of Michael Jackson. "I like the way he sings and what his music says," she stated.

Law has interested our beauty, mainly from an influence she has received from her father. "I'd like to attend the University of North Carolina at Charlotte or at Chapel Hill and my ambition is to become a corporate lawyer."

Both Miss Caldwell's father and mother have been positive examples in her life. "I can talk to my mother easily. She's a good person and she stresses responsibility, which is important.

Even though Miss Caldwell realizes that the impossible is often untried, she feels that through her efforts the impossible obstacles in her life can be overcome. Certainly a few of us can take note from a strong willed individual such as Sheila Caldwell.

NAACP To Sponsor

Blood Pressure Screening

Jerry Lail, area executive for Kayo Oil Company, recently announced he will assist the Charlotte-Mecklenburg NAACP in its ob-

servance of National Health Month.

Lail will offer his business site, 2301 Beatties Ford Road, as the location for the April 30 NAACP Health Fair. Charlotte has been chosen as one of 25 cities where the NAACP will conduct blood pressure and sickle cell screenings.

The organization will work in conjunction with American Red Cross and the Association for Sickle Cell. The program was coordinated by students from four local colleges.

The screenings are open to the public. They will be held 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Membership chairwoman, Anna Hood, stated NAACP memberships may be obtained at the Health Fair.

TURTLE-TALK

If the going is getting easy, you're not climbing.

**Charlotte
Post
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